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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/081,156	02/25/2002	Mark Stutler	3152A-Z	9175
7590	10/20/2004		EXAMINER	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER

Law Office of Jim Zegeer  
Suite 108  
801 North Pitt Street  
Alexandria, VA 22314

DATE MAILED: 10/20/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

<b>Communication Re: Appeal</b>	<b>Application No.</b>	<b>Applicant(s)</b>
	10/081,156	STUTLER, MARK
	<b>Examiner</b>	<b>Art Unit</b>
	Robert J Canfield	3635

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

1.  The Notice of Appeal filed on 20 May 2004 is not acceptable because:
  - (a)  it was not timely filed.
  - (b)  the statutory fee for filing the appeal was not submitted. See 37 CFR 1.17(b).
  - (c)  the appeal fee received on \_\_\_\_\_ was not timely filed.
  - (d)  the submitted fee of \$\_\_\_\_\_ is insufficient. The appeal fee required by 37 CFR 1.17(b) is \$\_\_\_\_\_.
  - (e)  the appeal is not in compliance with 37 CFR 1.191 in that there is no record of ~~second or a final rejection~~ <sup>any AFTER</sup> ~~AMENDMENT~~ in this application.
  - (f)  a Notice of Allowability, PTO-37, was mailed by the Office on \_\_\_\_\_.
  
2.  The appeal brief filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is NOT acceptable for the reason(s) indicated below:
  - (a)  the brief and/or brief fee is untimely. See 37 CFR 1.192.
  - (b)  the statutory fee for filing the brief has not been submitted. See 37 CFR 1.17(c).
  - (c)  the submitted brief fee of \$\_\_\_\_\_ is insufficient. The brief fee required by 37 CFR 1.17(c) is \$\_\_\_\_\_.

The appeal in this application will be dismissed unless corrective action is taken to timely submit the brief and requisite fee. Extensions of time may be obtained under 37 CFR 1.136(a).
  
3.  The appeal in this application is DISMISSED because:
  - (a)  the statutory fee for filing the brief as required under 37 CFR 1.17(c) was not timely submitted and the period for obtaining an extension of time to file the brief under 37 CFR 1.136 has expired.
  - (b)  the brief was not timely filed and the period for obtaining an extension of time to file the brief under 37 CFR 1.136 has expired.
  - (c)  Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 CFR 1.114 was filed on \_\_\_\_\_.
  - (d)  other: \_\_\_\_\_
  
4.  Because of the dismissal of the appeal, this application:
  - (a)  is abandoned because there are no allowed claims.
  - (b)  is before the examiner for final disposition because it contains allowed claims. Prosecution on the merits remains CLOSED.
  - (c)  is before the examiner for consideration of the submission and prosecution has been reopened pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114.

Robert J Canfield  
Primary Examiner  
Art Unit: 3635

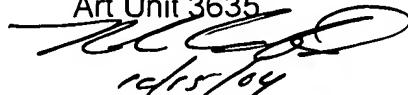
Art Unit: 3635

1. Applicant states in section IV. Of the Appeal Brief that an After Final amendment was filed February 20, 2004, concurrently with the Notice of Appeal. There is no record of any amendments after Final. The examiner requests applicant to resubmit the amendment with evidence that it was timely filed so that it may be considered prior to the Examiner's Answer as the Amendment may resolve, reduce, or simplify the issues for Appeal.
  
2. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Robert J Canfield whose telephone number is 703-308-2482. The examiner can normally be reached on M-Th.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Carl Friedman can be reached on 703-308-0839. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Robert J Canfield  
Primary Examiner  
Art Unit 3635



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "R. J. Canfield". Below the signature, the date "2/25/04" is handwritten.